

REMARKS

On page 2 of the Action, claims 1-3, 6-12, 15, 16 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kaji. On page 5 of the final Action, claims 4, 5, 13, 14 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaji in view of JP '164.

In view of the rejections, claims 7 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 8-12, and claims 1-6 and 8-12 have been cancelled. Also, in claims 7 and 20, some words used incorrectly have been corrected.

Rejection of claim 7 by Kaji

In Kaji, an image scanner 100 includes an optical unit 10 for reading a right side, and an optical unit 20 for reading a reverse side. The optical unit 10 can move under a platen glass 183 to read a still document. As shown in Fig. 3, the first and second reading means are laterally spaced apart from each other and read the right and reverse sides.

In claim 7 now amended, a third reading station is situated slightly away from the second platen glass and has a contact glass for reading the other surface of the moving document situated at a side opposite to the second reading station. The contact glass is formed integrally with the first guide member as one unit. In Kaji, the second reading means is formed on the upper side, but a device corresponding to the contact glass and the first guide member of claim 7 is not disclosed.

Also, in claim 7, it is clarified that the supporting means is formed for swingingly supporting the first guide member and the contact glass. In Kaji, there is no member for swingingly supporting any device.

A rejection based on 35 U.S.C. 102 requires every element of the claim to be included in the reference, either directly or inherently.

However, Kaji does not disclose directly or inherently that the contact glass is formed integrally with the first guide member as one unit, and that the supporting means is formed for swingingly supporting the first guide member and the contact glass.

By the above reason, claim 7 is not anticipated by Kaji. Claims 13-16 directly or indirectly depend from claim 7 are also patentable over Kaji.

Rejection of claim 20 by Kaji in view of JP '164

In claim 20, it is clarified that the first reading means includes a first carriage moving between the first reading station and the second reading station adjacent thereto and having a light source for illuminating the document, a lens to collect light, a second carriage moving in synchronous with movement of the first carriage and having a mirror to guide light from the document to the lens, and an image sensor to convert the light collected at the lens into electrical signals, and that the first carriage is located under the second reading station and the second carriage is located under the third reading station so that the document passing through the second reading station is read.

In Kaji, the optical unit 10 for reading the right side moves for reading the still document and moving document. However, the optical unit 10 is one unit, not first carriage and second carriage moving in synchronous with movement of the first carriage. Therefore, Kaji does not disclose the first reading means of claim 20.

JP '164 includes a first moving member 11 having a mirror 9, and a second moving member 14 having a mirror 13. In view of Fig. 1 of JP '164, the first moving member 11 is located left side of

second reading means 3, and the second moving member 14 is located further left side of the first moving member 11.

In claim 20, it is defined that the first carriage is located under the second reading station and the second carriage is located under the third reading station so that the document passing through the second reading station is read. The second moving member 14 in JP '164 is located under a guide plate 34, not a reading station. The arrangement of the first and second carriages of claim 20 is not disclosed or suggested in JP '164.

Even if Kaji and JP '164 are referred to, it is not suggested that the first carriage is located under the second reading station and the second carriage is located under the third reading station. Claim 20 is patentable over the cited references.

As explained above, claims now pending in the application are patentable over the cited references.

Reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

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